

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/02912

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

| | | | | | |
|-------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| IPC 7 | C07K14/705 | C12N15/12 | A61K38/17 | A23L1/305 | A23C9/13 |
| | A23C19/093 | A23K1/16 | A61P19/08 | A61P37/00 | |

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 C07K C12N A61K A23C A23L A23K A61P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EMBL, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|--|
| X | EP 0 816 380 A (SNOW BRAND MILK PRODUCTS CO., LTD.) 7 January 1998 (1998-01-07) * SEQ ID NO 4; page 5, line 1 - line 13; examples 4,25VI ---- | 1,5,6,9, 10,14 3,4,7,8, 11-13 |
| Y | EP 0 786 473 A (SNOW BRAND MILK PRODUCTS CO., LTD.) 30 July 1997 (1997-07-30) page 2, line 11 - line 35; claims 1,8; examples 7,8,10,12 ---- | 3,4 |
| Y | WO 00 24771 A (CURAGEN CORPORATION) 4 May 2000 (2000-05-04) cited in the application page 33, line 21 -page 36, line 5; claims 35-40,43-46 ---- ---- | 7,8 |
| | | -/- |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

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- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 February 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

12/02/2003

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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| A | WO 01 16299 A (MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH) 8 March 2001 (2001-03-08) page 3, line 11 - line 33 --- | 1-15 |
| A | SIMONET WS ET AL.: "Osteoprotegerin: A Novel Secreted Protein Involved in the Regulation of Bone Density" CELL, vol. 89, 18 April 1997 (1997-04-18), pages 309-319, XP002077048 abstract; figure 1B --- | 1-15 |

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